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Executive Director

12 December 1947

Executive for A&M

Assessment Program

1. After considerable discussion and consideration by the Director, the Deputy Director, yourself, and the Assistant Director for Special Operations, it was determined last June that the results being obtained from the relatively large assessment unit then established in OSO were not sufficient to warrant the cost of maintenance of the assessment program on the same scale as before. The relatively few individuals rejected as the result of recommendations of this unit would, in most cases at least, have been rejected through normal personnel placement action. Neither the Assistant Director for Special Operations nor the CIA Personnel Branch was willing to support this program as a usefully productive activity any longer. After some personal investigation, including examination of some case histories, I thoroughly concurred.

2. Determination was then made to reduce the assessment program to the point where we would have psychological and psychiatric assessment facilities in SO and in the CIA Personnel Branch sufficient to examine and submit recommendations in cases where such action was indicated. Notice was then given to the balance of the personnel engaged in this program to the effect that it would be considerably reduced on about 1 September in order to give them an opportunity for either reassignment within CIA to other work or to obtain other positions outside CIA.

3. Our experience since that time has not indicated the necessity for again expanding this type of activity within the agency, and I believe we will not find sufficient real future need to warrant much if any expansion.

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Ltr dtd Dec 8 fr Amer Psychiatric Assn.

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